

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0003] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0003] To satisfy these contradictory demands, the engine hood is in many cases configured as an assembly of an outer shell (which forms the body paneling) and a reinforcing shell, which is arranged below the outer shell and is provided with suitable deformation and stiffening elements. The generic EP 1 093 980 A1 has disclosed, for example, an engine hood with an outer shell and a reinforcing shell, the flexural rigidity of which varies over the engine hood in such a way that the engine hood has a relatively high flexural rigidity in the center but a lower flexural rigidity in the edge regions. This design is intended to ensure that in the event of a central head impact, the entire mass of the engine hood counteracts the impact, whereas in the event of a head impact in the edge regions, the energy of the head impact is dissipated over a small part of the engine hood. The design of the engine hood which is known from ~~EP 1 093 908 A1~~ EP 1 093 980 A1 therefore aims to achieve an approximately constant deformation of the engine hood irrespective of the impact site.